

Claims

1. A gas generator comprising an elongated, preferably tubular outer housing (10),  
at least one combustion chamber (26, 28) provided therein and filled with a solid  
5 propellant (30; 30'), and  
at least one igniter unit (16, 18) generating ignition gas for igniting said solid  
propellant (30; 30'),  
said igniter unit (16, 18) being arranged laterally and externally on said outer  
housing (10) and, in relation to said outer housing (10), a preferably radial  
10 ignition transfer opening (50, 58) being provided in said outer housing so that said  
ignition gas generated in said igniter unit (16, 18) flows into an interior of said  
outer housing (10) via said ignition transfer openings (50, 58).
2. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that an ignition  
transfer opening (58) is provided in said igniter unit (16) in a region of its  
15 fastening to said outer housing.
3. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said igniter  
unit (16, 18) does not project into said combustion chamber (26, 28).
4. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said  
combustion chamber (26, 28) has an axially arranged filling opening.
- 20 5. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said  
combustion chamber (26, 28) is constructed without an undercut.
6. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said  
combustion chamber (26, 28) is cylindrical and its longitudinal direction runs  
parallel to a central axis (A) of said outer housing (10).

7. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that between an inner face of said outer housing (10) and said combustion chamber wall (32) a distribution space (40) is provided for ignition gas produced by said igniter unit (16, 18), said ignition transfer opening (50, 58) opening into said space (40).

5        8. The gas generator according to Claim 7, characterized in that said distribution space (40) extends across an entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26).

9. The gas generator according to Claim 8, characterized in that said outer housing (10) has outflow openings (44) and an expansion space (42) for gas is  
10 provided between said combustion chamber (26, 28) and said outflow openings (44).

10. The gas generator according to Claim 9, characterized in that said expansion space (42) extends across said entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26, 28).

15        11. The gas generator according to Claim 7, characterized in that said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said distribution space (40).

12. The gas generator according to Claim 9, characterized in that said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially  
20 inwardly directed indentation to produce said expansion space (42).

13. The gas generator according to Claim 11, characterized in that except for said distribution space (40), said insert lies with an entire surface against said inner face of said outer housing (10).

14. The gas generator according to Claim 12, characterized in that except for  
25 said expansion space (42), said insert lies with an entire surface against said inner face of said outer housing (10).

15. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said outer housing has outflow openings (44) which are arranged in a region lying diametrically opposite said ignition transfer opening (50, 58), as seen relative to said central axis (A) of said outer housing (10).